



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



New
England



Crop Progress & Condition

Gary Keough, State Statistician

53 Pleasant St. Room 3450, Concord, NH 03301

Phone: 603-224-9639

Fax: 603-225-1432

www.nass.usda.gov/nh
Week ending September 24, 2017

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nassrfoner@nass.usda.gov
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Excellent week for field work:

New England averaged 7 days suitable for field work last week. Warmer-humid weather with temperatures in the mid-70s to upper-80s was reported throughout the New England states last week. A few areas received rain in throughout the week as a result of Tropical Storm Jose. Regional weekly temperatures ranged from 2 degrees to 15 degrees above normal. Weekly precipitation ranged from 0.00 to 3.85 inches throughout the region. The warmer weather delayed the harvest of many fruit and vegetable crops, especially farms marketing their produce as 'pick your own.' The warmer weather was a real boon for corn process, although yields are still expected to be lower this year. Hay harvesting conditions are reported as good, as operators continued harvesting third or fourth cuttings. Weather slowed down the harvesting of fruits and vegetables, however, demand is still steady at farm stands in the New England states. Apple harvest continued this week with much of the focus being on picking McIntosh and Gala varieties. Cover crop planting started last week as growers take advantage of the dryer planting conditions. Fall grazing in hayfields has begun on many farms. Field activities for the week included side-dressing fields with fertilizer, cultivating, mowing weeds, as well as equipment repair and maintenance.

Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 24, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
TOPSOIL	3	47	50	0
SUBSOIL	2	28	70	0

Crop Conditions as of September 24, 2017

(in percent)

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
APPLES	0	0	11	72	17
CORN	0	0	15	59	26
CRANBERRIES (MA)	3	3	10	68	16
DRY HAY	0	1	15	64	20
PASTURE AND RANGE	2	9	52	35	2
PEARS	0	0	7	12	81
POTATOES (ME)	1	38	40	21	0
QUALITY OF DRY HAY MADE	0	2	13	71	14

Crop Progress as of September 24, 2017

(in percent)

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
APPLES: HARVESTED	35	28	53
BLUEBERRIES, TAME: HARVESTED	96	92	N/A
CORN FOR SILAGE: HARVESTED	15	<5	33
DRY HAY: 2nd CUTTING	98	93	N/A
DRY HAY: 3rd CUTTING	76	70	80
DRY HAY: 4th CUTTING	27	17	14
FALL TILLAGE: PERCENT COMPL	11	<5	7
OATS (ME): HARVESTED FOR GRAIN	95	80	92
PEACHES: HARVESTED	93	87	86
PEARS: HARVESTED	32	25	41
POTATOES (ME): HARVESTED	30	20	31
SWEET CORN: HARVESTED	91	86	95

For a complete nationwide weekly weather and crop bulletin, please visit www.usda.gov/oc/weather and click on "[Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin.](#)"

September 24, 2017 New England Weekly Weather Summary

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
Maine	Augusta_State_A	82	51	66	+8	0.06	1	18.08	-2.57	72	2172	+79	3759
	Bangor_Intl_Air	84	48	66	+9	0.07	2	20.90	+1.94	69	2081	+116	3654
	Bethel	86	44	64	+8	0.00	0	23.68	+0.63	69	1898	+28	3450
	Bridgton	77	50	65	+11	0.00	0	27.34	+4.80	74	1730	+37	3240
	Caribou_Municip	84	39	63	+11	0.00	0	20.35	+0.48	84	1737	+270	3247
	Dover-Foxcroft	84	40	65	+13	0.03	1	21.55	-0.19	82	1815	+325	3334
	Durham	83	51	64	+7	0.02	2	20.54	-0.83	74	1862	-62	3438
	East_Surry	89	48	66	+10	0.05	3	19.35	-1.81	85	1748	-75	3305
	Eustis	82	37	60	+10	0.01	1	23.92	+3.30	77	1359	+216	2797
	Frenchville	80	45	61	+10	0.00	0	19.29	-1.04	77	1382	+32	2833
	Harmony	85	44	65	+11	0.05	1	22.77	+1.51	83	1849	+116	3409
	Hollis	79	51	64	+9	0.07	1	23.85	+2.09	69	1867	+54	3403
	Houlton	84	34	63	+11	0.01	1	18.05	-1.54	81	1700	+200	3213
	Livermore_Falls	84	47	65	+12	0.03	1	21.71	-1.27	70	1836	+327	3385
	Millinocket Was	85	38	62	+8	0.00	0	22.30	+0.44	80	1625	-110	3108
	Moosehead	81	44	64	+13	0.00	0	25.34	+3.03	93	1525	+230	2998
	Portland_ME	82	55	66	+10	0.04	1	20.49	+0.28	56	2179	+301	3777
	Rangeley_2NW	82	41	62	+11	0.01	1	22.66	+1.30	90	1284	-5	2708
	Topsfield_2	83	47	64	+10	0.07	1	19.63	-2.51	76	1914	+250	3445
	Turner	85	52	65	+6	0.04	3	22.78	+1.79	77	2051	-207	3620
	West_Rockport	81	54	65	+8	0.23	4	21.57	-0.67	73	1977	+218	3542
	Whiting	82	52	65	+10	0.04	1	20.53	-2.11	65	1868	+428	3472
	Woodland	76	51	65	+10	0.04	2	16.84	-3.43	66	2122	+385	3715
New Hampshire	Berlin_AG	84	42	63	+9	0.00	0	22.35	+1.21	79	1640	+12	3154
	Bradford_2	83	48	64	+7	0.03	1	25.38	+3.07	58	1715	-280	3253
	Colebrook	83	39	63	+10	0.01	1	25.17	+2.99	95	1389	-102	2854
	Concord	87	53	69	+12	0.01	1	22.16	+3.67	67	2365	+265	3982
	East_Milford	83	58	67	+9	0.05	2	26.23	+4.51	64	2306	+65	3939
	Epping	84	57	67	+9	0.01	1	22.23	+1.01	68	2258	+133	3868
	Errol_AP	81	36	61	+9	0.00	0	22.49	+2.07	82	1403	+55	2871
	Greenville	84	56	65	+10	0.15	2	26.87	+4.99	57	1917	+146	3469
	Hancock	84	56	67	+11	0.02	1	26.77	+4.33	74	2147	+207	3738
	Jaffrey Silver	85	57	68	+13	0.08	2	25.81	+3.93	67	2272	+501	3894
	Jefferson	82	44	64	+10	0.00	0	23.29	+1.57	76	1775	+80	3302
	Keene_AG	86	52	68	+11	0.00	0	29.98	+8.77	71	2023	-2	3618
	Lakeport_2	84	57	69	+11	0.00	0	26.39	+5.52	65	2374	+183	3986
	Lebanon	86	48	69	+13	0.00	0	23.04	+4.21	73	2253	+288	3864
	North_Conway	86	48	67	+11	0.04	2	25.35	+2.33	74	2097	+150	3672
	Tamworth_4	81	45	63	+10	0.01	1	29.84	+4.55	75	1616	+74	3137
	Wolfeburro	76	57	67	+9	0.00	0	26.58	+5.71	76	2154	-37	3760
Vermont	Averill	81	36	63	+13	0.00	0	20.31	-4.52	68	1418	+310	2880
	Bennington_AP	84	48	68	+14	0.00	0	28.81	+3.04	73	2164	+539	3794
	Burlington_Intl	87	52	70	+13	0.00	0	24.36	+3.70	87	2502	+334	4129
	Corinth	78	43	62	+8	0.00	0	25.39	+6.11	80	1465	-286	2971
	Johnson_2N	80	46	64	+11	0.00	0	30.92	+8.36	94	1578	-46	3072
	Marlboro_Raws	80	48	65	+12	0.00	0	33.04	+11.87	71	1898	+312	3476
	Montpelier_AP	82	44	65	+11	0.00	0	27.06	+7.78	86	1729	-22	3257
	Newport_AG	83	44	65	+9	0.00	0	23.56	+1.70	92	1769	-230	3290

		Last Week Weather Summary						Accumulation Since April 1, 2017					
		Temperature				Precipitation		Precipitation			GDD Base 50F		Base 40F
State	Station	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN	Total
	Rochester	87	45	66	+11	0.00	0	26.96	+2.37	69	1813	+117	3365
	Rutland_AG	83	46	65	+8	0.00	0	21.24	-0.82	77	1892	-175	3475
	Springfield_VT	86	46	68	+13	0.00	0	23.66	+0.33	73	2076	+230	3668
	South_Lincoln	82	42	62	+10	0.07	1	30.63	+4.60	81	1565	+149	3063
	Sutton	82	48	66	+14	0.00	0	26.72	+3.69	90	1616	+167	3103
	Walden	79	43	62	+10	0.00	0	25.66	+2.63	96	1195	-254	2594
	Woodstock	86	46	67	+12	0.00	0	25.79	+4.89	70	2038	+172	3634
Massachusetts	Amherst	86	57	70	+11	0.03	1	23.94	+0.97	68	2386	+106	4045
	Barre_Falls_Dam	85	57	68	+13	0.04	3	31.57	+8.41	82	2302	+534	3945
	Bedford_Hanscom	84	57	68	+9	0.21	3	22.80	+1.16	66	2537	+201	4190
	Beverly_Ag	76	55	64	+2	0.61	4	23.86	+3.69	73	2191	-310	3802
	Birch_Hill_Dam	86	55	68	+13	0.03	3	22.90	+0.68	73	2136	+339	3739
	Boston_Logan_In	75	57	66	+3	0.50	4	20.95	+1.85	67	2711	+52	4389
	Chatham_AP	73	59	65	+4	2.11	5	25.84	+5.08	64	2353	+397	4029
	Chicopee_Westov	86	54	70	+11	0.01	1	20.82	-2.15	71	2499	+219	4160
	Edgartown	74	58	65	+3	3.85	4	29.23	+8.28	69	2382	+127	4068
	East_Brimfield_	86	54	68	+10	0.03	2	23.85	+1.60	88	2350	+265	3995
	Fitchburg	86	57	70	+11	0.08	4	24.31	+0.86	73	2790	+416	4455
	Greenfield	86	55	69	+10	0.02	1	24.77	+1.80	68	2324	+44	3982
	Hyannis_AP	77	59	66	+5	2.16	6	29.12	+10.12	68	2396	+204	4065
	Lawrence_AP	84	60	70	+11	0.26	2	22.75	+2.18	60	2916	+590	4581
	Maynard	82	54	68	+9	0.23	3	26.87	+5.23	80	2582	+246	4265
	New_Bedford	80	55	66	+2	1.82	5	23.23	+0.15	67	2424	-263	4092
	North Adams AP	84	48	66	+11	0.00	0	24.29	-1.46	75	2135	+410	3758
	Norwood	82	54	68	+8	1.17	4	20.17	-1.37	64	2579	+136	4262
	Pittsfield	82	51	68	+12	0.00	0	24.59	-0.41	79	1992	+61	3597
	Plymouth	81	55	65	+4	3.42	4	24.09	+1.23	69	2485	+63	4140
	Taunton_4NW	83	56	66	+6	1.85	4	22.92	+0.78	73	2658	+260	4336
	Westfield_Barne	87	59	71	+15	0.00	0	19.84	-3.63	67	2584	+620	4252
	West_Otis	86	54	70	+14	0.00	0	22.54	-4.38	85	2499	+628	4160
	Worcester	80	57	66	+8	0.16	3	20.99	-2.82	75	2261	+137	3876
	Worthington	84	55	67	+11	0.01	1	23.78	-1.39	78	1854	+52	3435
Rhode Island	Newport_AP	77	57	67	+4	0.51	5	20.29	-0.06	70	2435	+104	4125
	Providence	82	57	68	+6	0.47	5	24.43	+3.36	71	2807	+196	4511
	Westerly-Wester	84	57	70	+8	0.39	2	20.09	-2.48	65	2611	+203	4315
	Woonsocket	83	57	67	+7	0.75	4	23.61	+0.75	71	2630	+210	4314
Connecticut	Bridgeport_Siko	87	63	73	+9	0.19	1	20.41	-1.42	61	3037	+302	4774
	Danbury_AP	84	57	72	+12	0.25	1	19.01	-7.21	69	2520	+26	4190
	Hartford_Bradle	87	60	72	+11	0.01	1	23.22	+0.25	72	2798	+125	4492
	Meriden-Meriden	87	57	71	+11	0.01	1	18.81	-7.33	61	2639	+199	4344
	Norfolk	79	57	67	+11	0.00	0	22.98	-3.94	80	2021	+150	3619
	Norwich	86	54	70	+8	0.08	1	21.14	-3.04	59	2798	+202	4507
	Staffordville	83	57	66	+8	0.00	0	24.12	-0.03	59	2144	-3	3764
	Thomaston_Dam	86	59	72	+14	0.05	1	23.68	-1.53	87	2703	+518	4390
	West_Thompson_L	82	56	67	+9	0.12	3	23.67	-0.72	72	2306	+132	3952
	Willimantic	87	57	71	+13	0.01	1	20.15	-4.00	68	2794	+647	4501

Summary based on NWS preliminary data. DFN = Departure From Normal.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

REPORTERS COMMENTS, By County

Reporters are from Extension Service (Ext), Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Farm Service Agency (FSA), Conservation District (CD), farmers, commodity specialists, or other knowledgeable individuals.

MAINE

AROOSTOOK (Central), Larry James

Potato harvest is underway. Some operations have suspended harvest because of the hot weather. Warm night time temperatures make it impossible to cool down storages. Lack of rain the last two months will cut any chance of a second hay crop. Grain harvest continues with better than average results.

CUMBERLAND/YORK, Sandy Truslow

Very warm over the weekend. Too warm for apple picking, customers would rather go to the beach. Three days of drizzle from Jose did not supply any significant water. Conditions are very dry again.

FRANKLIN, Gary J. Raymond

Another excellent week for hay harvest. It is getting dry and pasture conditions are deteriorating. Pollination problems seem to have effected some pumpkin and squash patches. The extra heat is really helping the corn crop mature.

PENOBSCOT/PISCATAQUIS, Donna Coffin

Another dry week that ended in some very hot days. Sweet Corn is coming to an end mostly due to maturity of crops and not frost.

WASHINGTON, Audre Hayward

Above average high temperatures.

MASSACHUSETTS

ALL MA COUNTIES, Tom Smiarowski

Tropical Storm Jose curtailed harvesting activities primarily in Southeastern Massachusetts with reports of 2-3 inches over a three day period. Also affected in the same area were "U-Pick" apple operations. Western Massachusetts remained relatively dry with a few reports of intermittent shower activity. Corn silage harvest remains behind schedule due to lack of maturity.

PLYMOUTH, Hilary Sandler

Conditions were challenging for dry harvesting due to Tropical Storm Jose. Rainfall amounts varied throughout the region with weekly totals ranging from 1 to 5 inches. Early varieties like Demoranville are particularly susceptible to decline in the field with wet or moist conditions.

PLYMOUTH, Steve Ward

Tropical Storm Jose has caused brief delays for cranberry producers harvesting fresh fruit and some early varieties for processing. In addition to rainy windy conditions making it difficult to harvest, the warmer weather has slowed cranberry ripening.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

GRAFTON, Steven Schmidt

Cropping conditions for the past week remained favorable. Corn chopping has started in some areas. Sun and heat have helped the corn dry down. Those chopping haylage or making hay have had good weather to do so.

HILLSBOROUGH, George Hamilton

Vegetables: Good demand for all fruit and vegetables continues. Harvesting wide array of vegetables, including warm season vegetables like tomatoes and peppers. Harvesting cabbage, kale, brussel sprouts, winter squash and pumpkins. Farmers kept busy disking, cleaning up and planting cover crops on harvested fields. Fruit: Apple harvest is in full swing with most growers concentrating on picking McIntosh and Gala apples. Great weekend for Pick-Your-Own orchards. Fall raspberries and pear harvest continued with peach and plum harvest winding down. Grape harvest taking place. Field Crops: Silage corn not quite ready to be harvested and third cuts of hay and haylage continues. New forage seedings are made and many are germinating and growing.

ROCKINGHAM, Nada Haddad

We had some sunny days and the week ended with a summer-like hot and humid day. Apple growers were concerned about the Jose Hurricane and its wind effect especially on the apple crop. Wednesday was a rainy day. Apple trees are loaded with fruits and apple picking going very well. Most apple varieties are ready to be picked. Late blueberry varieties and fall raspberries are harvested. Picking greens, broccoli, a whole array of warm season crops, table grapes and wine grapes. Cleaning vegetable fields and plowing. Hay and haylage being done.

SULLIVAN, Jennifer Z. Gehly

Summer-like conditions ushered in the start of fall. Temperatures during the week were in the mid to upper 70s while the weekend was a hot one with high temperatures reaching into the upper 80s on Sunday. Some records were broken across the region. Farmers were busy harvesting hay. Overall, the hay crop looks good. Field corn is getting there. While a majority of the silage harvest is still a couple weeks out, some producers did begin chopping last week.

RHODE ISLAND

ALL RI COUNTIES, Heather Faubert

Jose was not as damaging as feared.

ALL RI COUNTIES, George Goulart

Rhode Island was very fortunate to have missed the brunt of Hurricane Jose. This past week the state received rain and minor winds from this offshore storm. Despite the rain, the lower portions of the state remain in abnormally dry conditions. Harvesting of crops is wrapping up and the second cutting of hay is almost completed by many producers.

VERMONT

BENNINGTON/RUTLAND, Tina Williams

A dry week saw corn silage harvest, fall tillage, cover cropping and haying. Apples are red, large and plentiful and picking is in full swing.

FRANKLIN, Paul Stanley

All sun and warm temps in Franklin County continue this week. Corn growers are taking advantage of the late growing degree days and moving to maturity. Dry conditions are taking its toll on pastures, however, Corn and hay ground are not suffering at this point. Much dew in the AM was helping with what moisture is needed for keeping things green. Much hay harvest this week with amazing regrowth. Might even see some grass that can be harvested after corn is off. Pumpkins have taken advantage of the late warm weather and are showing off much orange at roadside stands everywhere.

ORLEANS, David Blodgett

The past two weeks have consisted of much needed dry, sunny and warm weather. This has made conditions ideal for harvesting crops. The corn got a huge boost during this time period. Even still the predictions are that corn yields will be about 20% lower than normal. Still that is better than what was predicted a few weeks ago. Almost all third cutting of hay has been harvested and many have been cutting forth crop. Both third and fourth cut look really good. Farmers are just starting to cut corn this past week. Fall grazing in hayfields has begun on many farms.